

Digest of SME Statistics - Uzbekistan
Information Available as of First Quarter 2004

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, there were 239,496 officially registered Small and Medium Enterprises in 2002. This represented almost a 19% increase from the prior year (See the Table 1.). Approximately 10% of those were SME's were not active, however.

In 2002, SME's provided 54.5% of employment in Uzbekistan and 34.6% of Gross Domestic Product. Both of those statistics were small percentage increases from the prior year numbers of 51.8% and 33.8%, respectively.

The Industry most dependant on SME's was Agriculture where SME's provided over three quarters of employment at 76.4% of the total. Passenger Turnover was the category with the second highest percentage of SME Employment at 54.9%. Trade was the third largest segment at 43.8%, just ahead of Construction and Toll Services at 41.3%. Industry, where large enterprises are more prevalent, relied on SME's for only 14.1% of employment. See a complete list in Table 1 for the last three years.

Table 1

**MAIN INDICATORS OF SMALL AND MEDIUM
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT IN UZBEKISTAN**

| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Number of registered small and medium enterprises | 182,963 | 201,874 | 239,496 |
| Employment as a % of the total labor force | 49.7 | 51.8 | 54.5 |
| Gross added value in % of the GDP | 31.0 | 33.8 | 34.6 |
| SME EMPLOYMENT BREAKDOWN BY INDUSTRY (%of total) | | | |
| Industry | 14.0 | 14.5 | 14.1 |
| Agriculture | 73.6 | 74.5 | 76.4 |
| Construction | 36.8 | 36.8 | 41.3 |
| Trade | 45.3 | 46.1 | 43.8 |
| Toll services | 37.9 | 40.5 | 41.3 |
| Goods turnover | 29.4 | 32.9 | 38.7 |
| Passenger turnover | 44.4 | 49.7 | 54.9 |

The Department of Statistics, from The State Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Uzbekistan, provided the statistics in this report. Those statistics define a small enterprise as follows: for manufacturing, a company with annual average number of employees more than 10 but not more than 40; for construction, agriculture and other sectors of industry more than 5 but not more than 20; and for science, scientific servicing, retail trade and other non-industry sectors, more than 5 but not more than 10. Medium enterprises are defined as those exceeding the level of employment for small business, but less than 100 in manufacturing, 50 in construction, 30 in agriculture, wholesale trade, public catering and other sectors of industry, and 20 in retail trade, services, and other non-industry sectors.

Another source of SME statistics was recently published by the International Finance Corporation entitled "Business Environment in Uzbekistan As Seen By Small and Medium Enterprises." That study cites the very same statistics provided here from the Uzbekistan Government, but also provides additional details including primary research on the topic. A copy of that report has previously been forwarded to USAID

USAID Enterprise Development Project
Implemented by The Pragma Corporation

from the CA Representatives of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs—the funding agency for that work.